

**VIC GILLIAM**  
**STATE REPRESENTATIVE**  
DISTRICT 18



**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
**900 COURT ST NE**  
**SALEM, OR 97301**

March 8, 2013

Honorable Representative Tomei  
900 Court Street NE  
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Chair Tomei,

I am writing today to support the work done by the Agriculture Workforce Housing Coalition and urge this committee's support for extending the Farm Worker Housing Tax Credit. This tax credit is an important tool to provide safe, stable and affordable housing that enables Oregon agricultural to be competitive worldwide.

This tax credit allows communities to provide the housing required to get Oregon's produce to markets worldwide. Let's encourage farm workers and the partners who provide decent shelter by fortifying this vital legislative instrument. As our Committee is aware, the workers we focus on in this sector are a mobile population that rely on the basic housing created by this tax credit. In addition, new federal farm housing requirements will begin in 2016, and this credit will give farmers vital support to comply with the new regulations.

Many of us are proud of the vast amount of farms and square miles of produce in our districts. All of us benefit from the related economic effects and even depend on the food produced from these fields. Thank you for joining me in supporting the agricultural community of farmers, non-profit partners and coalitions who are committed to quality farm worker housing.

Sincerely,

Vic Gilliam  
State Representative  
House District 18